



Common Land Management Plan for Kettleburgh Pound

under the jurisdiction of Kettleburgh Parish Council 2022-2027





What is this document?

This document is a management plan for the land known as the Kettleburgh Pound under the jurisdiction of the Kettleburgh Parish Council (KPC). It provides information about the land management that KPC will be delivering in the next five years and the reasons for it.

The document provides information in three parts; Part 1 looks at the framework in which KPC's work must sit, including the legislation. It then describes the land under KPC's jurisdiction. Part 2 evaluates what has been described to help identify priorities before Part 3 clarifies what the goals are and how KPC will go about achieving them. The whole document should therefore provide a transparent link between theory and legislation, and the practical tasks undertaken on the ground.

It is a working document intended for those managing the Pound. But it will also be publicly available and may be of interest to anyone wishing to know how the Pound is managed and why. It should help to answer questions about the way in which it is managed and inform people about works that may affect them in the future.

The final version of this management plan will be informed by consultations with the public, local groups, non-government organisations and public bodies, all of whom will play a role in delivering it.

This document does not cover the internal workings of the Council. These are covered by Acts of Parliament, Standing Orders and the KPC Business Plan, all of which are available online including the Kettleburgh website www.kettleburgh.suffolk.gov.uk

The information in this plan has been made as accurate as possible but it will be continuously updated.

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1. CONTEXT/SETTING/DESCRIPTION

[When KPC was initiated – Act that governs PCs – how it got ownership]

Commons Acts (several) / Rights of Common

The Pound land is registered common land. This means KPC's rights are subject to statutory control and any commoners' interests. Commoners would have a legal right to exercise their rights of common on common land as prescribed by the Commons Registers, but in this case, there are no registered commoners.

Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981

The Wildlife and Countryside Act is the primary legislation that protects animals, plants, and certain sites in the UK. This protection means that some land management must be done in a certain way in compliance with this Act. Many species that could be present on the Pound land and, in some cases, their dwelling places too, are protected by this legislation. Adequate planning, survey, timing, and execution of tasks is needed to avoid intentional or reckless harm to protected species.

Occupier's Liability Acts, 1957 and 1984

These Acts impose on all landowners including KPC, a duty of care both to legitimate visitors and to trespassers.

Equality Act, 2010

This Act legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It also contains a 'public sector equality duty' that applies to public bodies and those who carry out a public function. This duty is to have due regard to the need to: 'eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act; advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it'. This 'ensures that public bodies consider the needs of all individuals in their day-to-day work – in shaping policy, in delivering services, and in relation to their own employees'. This process could involve making reasonable adjustments to meet the need of people with a disability.



Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974 & Regulations, 1999

All operations carried out on this site must comply with this Act. This will include the completion of hazard identification, assessments and reviews, and specific activity risk assessments (generic or site specific) will be completed for all activities

Countryside and Rights of Way (Crow) Act, 2000

The CROW Act introduced a public right of access on foot on areas of open country and registered common land across England.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006

Section 40 of this act establishes 'the biodiversity duty' on public authorities. Its definition of the latter includes: 'a body carrying out functions of a public character under a statutory power'. This duty is: 'to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of your policy or decision making. Conserving biodiversity can include restoring or enhancing a population or habitat'.

Forestry Act 1967.

[Need to find out if KPC is covered or exempt under paragraph 9 subsection 2b) from needing a felling licence from the Forestry Commission.]

There are many other pieces of legislation that affect the way in which KPC may operate. For reference these include:

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH).

The Highways Act 1980.

The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER).

Land Drainage Act 1991.

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (The Rio Conference, 1992).

Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The Weeds Act 1959 and the Ragwort Control Act 2003.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2010.

Cross Compliance (Basic Payment Scheme).



In May 2019 the UK Government declared a **climate change emergency** to reduce carbon emissions by 80% by 2050. Recent scientific research has further highlighted the global significance of this issue. Government guidance through public policies and circulars at both central and local level is also applicable. Further information about UK legislation can be found at: www.legislation.gov.uk .

The management of the Pound also sits within a framework of the **local government planning system**. Key documents are:

- Suffolk County Council – [*needs checking* - *Waste Core Strategy, Minerals Local Plan.*]
- East Suffolk District Council – [*needs checking* - *adopted East Suffolk Development Plan*] and National Planning Policy Framework.
- Suffolk County Council – adopted Local Plan – core strategy.

Within this extensive legislative framework, KPC has two long-term purposes, to 1. keep the Pound open for the public; and 2. conserve the land, its important features and special qualities. It has a short-term purpose – to encourage greater access by providing better features relating to its historic use, and interpretation resources.



Description of the Site

This section provides basic information about the Pound land under the jurisdiction of KPC. It aims to answer the question ‘what have we got?’ The description only includes statements of fact that provided the basis for evaluation and decision making in Parts 2 and 3.

Location and Site Boundaries

Site Map 1 gives a close-up view of the Pound land under KPC’s jurisdiction and its boundaries (marked in **brown**). Site Map 2 shows the site in its setting. The land is in Kettleburgh, a parish in East Suffolk (Parish Boundary marked **blue**). It totals just over 1/6th of an acre/700 m² and lies on Mill Lane, which crosses the River Deben at Kettleburgh Bridge; it is bounded on the southeast by Mill Lane, on the northeast by the access track that leads past Watermill Cottages to Watermill House (on the site of the old corn mill). The river was, before it was straightened, the western boundary. The other relevant local authorities are East Suffolk at District Level and Suffolk at County level.

The land is a small broadly triangular area of common land, consisting now of rough grass with several mature trees. It is hedged and fenced with one large and one small access gate. The exact area on the ground has been reviewed several times, always with the same conclusions, so there is no doubt about where and what the area of land called the Pound is.

It sits within a wide area of Enclosed Commons of gently rolling lowland landform. Land use is pastoral with mainly arable farming. It is an open landscape with views through hedgerow trees and strips of linear tree cover along watercourses.



Site Map 1 - Detail



The site is shown on Ordnance Survey maps, grid ref. TM 263 597. Its address is Mill Lane, Kettleburgh, IP13 7JS.

Dark night skies are recognised as a key part of the area's tranquillity and have been mapped by the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). *[what does the mapping show for Pound?]*

Tenure

This is not a legal document. Refer to original documents before taking any decision or action that may have legal implications.

The land known as The Pound, Kettleburgh, East Suffolk is the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 145 in the Register of Common Land maintained by Suffolk County Council. Ownership by KPC as freehold under s.4 of the Commons Registration Act 1965 was confirmed in 1979.

There are no known easements, Manorial Rights, Covenants, or Commoners with Rights of Common¹.

¹ Most common land is privately owned. Owners of commons enjoy largely the same rights as other landowners, except that common land is subject to 'rights of common' held by other individuals (commoners) over the common, and to the special statutory controls that may apply under commons legislation. The ambiguous term 'common' refers to the rights held in common by certain people to use the product of the soil. Commons are a remnant of the manorial system which, from mediaeval times, has been the basis of the country's economy (Clayden, 2007).



Site Map 2 - Context



Owners of certain properties and/or parcels of land are entitled to exercise rights of common on certain areas of common land as detailed in the County commons registers (held and maintained by county councils). A variety of common rights exist including estovers, turbary and piscary, but the most frequent right is that of pasturage, whereby each commoner can graze a certain number of livestock on common land. Without commoners' rights such activities can be undertaken by members of the public only at the discretion and authorisation of KPC.

[what about the original rights to charge for pounding and release?]

[Are there wayleaves for utility companies to install and maintain their infrastructure?]

A Public Right of Way (footpath only, Kettleburgh No. 26) runs N – S to the E of the land beyond the hedge. KPC has no rights or obligations regarding this path, other than its normal rights and obligations regarding footpaths in the parish.

Status of the land

The Pound land is not covered by any legal designation other than being a Common. *[needs checking – there are all sorts – nitrate vulnerable zones, groundwater source protection zones etc. Also whether the built Pound would be any sort of monument.]*

The legal basis for the hedging and fencing is unclear but there is often a presumption that neighbouring properties may fence against common land. The trees were planted by previous managers with the aim of providing amenity value.

Site Infrastructure

There are hedges, fences, two gates *[and an interpretation board? A plaque? Anything else?]*

[Environment/weather/Climate/trends/geology/soil/hydrology]

The land is classed as 'Soilscape 20': Loamy and clayey floodplain soils with naturally high groundwater. In terms of habitat connectivity, it is identified as floodplain grassland and is part of an extensive habitat network associated with the river Deben corridor. To the northwest of the pound is deciduous woodland, a habitat of principal importance under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 - also known as a Priority habitat. (Suffolk Wildlife Trust – 2022)



Biology

Flora

Grasses – hedges – trees – plants – fungi – other

Trees present [*check!*] are: Crack Willow, *Salix fragilis* [*previously identified as White Willow, Salix alba – it may be a hybrid*]; Common Lime, *Tilia x europaea* [*previously identified as Black, or Lombardy, Poplar, Populus nigra*]; Rowen, *Sorbus aucuparia*; Weeping Willow, *Salix babylonica*; Alder, *Alnus glutinosa*.

Fauna

Species

National Biological Atlas records within 1km include: Protected Species: Water vole; otter. Priority Species: common toad; grass snake; brown hare; hedgehog; water shrew. Birds of Conservation Concern, red listed: swift; greenfinch; house martin; yellowhammer; spotted flycatcher; house sparrow; starling; fieldfare; mistle thrush. Additional Suffolk Priority bird species: song thrush; bullfinch; dunnoek. [Suffolk Wildlife Trust - 2022]

Amphibians and reptiles – birds – mammals – invertebrates

Non-native species [*bracken? - check*]

[*need to search out historic photos for changes and especially, evidence of nature of built structure*]

Cultural Heritage and Archaeology/past land use

The Pound probably dates to mediaeval times. A pinfold/pound is defined as an enclosure – Saxon ‘pundfald’ and ‘pund’. The map of commons shows it as Common Land 145, without a plot number, labelled ‘Pinfold’, the south-eastern quarter without wall or fence (shown by a dashed as opposed to solid line). A circle is marked within, and there is a clear statement in the ownership registration document “...parts of the Pound were still standing...”. The circle therefore probably represented a walled pinfold, set in a small area of waste ground of the manor. The walls were most likely of brick, mudstone, or a combination. It was originally by the river so that the responsible Pinder could water the temporary animal residents.



The land may or may not have contained trees over time. Boundaries wise, it isn't a historic common in the usual sense. It would not have needed firm boundaries if it contained a built pinfold, but may have also been used for grazing, maybe geese, or storage, as it was in the 1940s. The Pound land is said to have been gifted by the Parish of Dennington. There was a time of some confusion. This was caused by the moving of the course of the river Deben and filling in of its original course and associated waterways of the former mill, probably in the 1950s. Correspondence refers to 'the mill stream'. c19th maps show the main river being controlled, presumably for mill purposes, with a substantial branch passing under the mill. The western boundary of the Pound abuts the former course of the river/mill stream, not the current course. At one point the then owners of the Mill House offered to buy the Pound as part of a land swap. This did not happen, but the Kettleburgh Green emerged from the process.

[History needs looking at properly – Mrs Harris?]

People – stakeholders, access, recreation

Currently the Pound is said to be little visited but was more visited in the past. *[Find out – has there been any measurement?]*

Stakeholders

Local residents

Visitors, possibly groups, with interest in Pounds and vernacular buildings

Potentially, graziers

Educational bodies

Walkers

Councillors and Clerk

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Other Councils/related bodies – Suffolk, East Suffolk, Water Boards, Suffolk TICs, Highways Agency

Neighbouring landowners in particular the Watermill House and [...]



Local business, the Chequers pub ... *[any B&Bs, other places to stay?]*

Other public bodies – DEFRA, Natural England, Commons Registrar, possibly Historic England, Environment Agency, *[is there a Pounds body?]*

Areas of Stakeholder Interest

Agriculture

Nature Conservation

History/Tradition

Landscape

Archaeology

Access

Recreation

Game

Community/Culture

Issues

Lack of use, conflict between wildlife/access, lack of built Pound, lack of information/history for people, lack of interpretation, hedging/fencing, access and whether to encourage and expand, low visitor numbers, although no actual data held ('what's the point if nobody comes?' v 'we don't want more people in the village'). There are several activities that could become issues – dog walking, foraging, picnics/barbeques, music, tree bathing.

Interpretation and Education

[Currently none? But some potential certainly]



2. EVALUATION

Features and Qualities

Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) has advised on management in 2012 and 2022. In recent years the land has been mown three weekly, cuttings (arising) have been left in situ. Some English bluebell bulbs have been planted. A hedge has been planted along the lane and is neatly trimmed. The meadow is known to flood.

Trees

There are several mature trees on site, including Common Lime [*check - this may be regrowth of a Black, or Lombardy, Poplar felled between 2005 and 2016*], Rowan, Weeping Willow, Crack Willow (*previously identified as White Willow – need to check for white/hairy leaf undersides if White, but in any case, many willows are hybrids*) and Alder.

Alder and willow trees are well suited to meadows that flood, common lime is tolerant of a wide range of conditions, rowan is more often associated with free draining soils so may be short lived in these conditions. Both the Alder and Crack Willow trees were in 2005 identified as having ‘management problems’ and recommended for felling. Felling would open the area and probably return it to a state closer to its mediaeval state (although that state will itself have resulted from grazing, e.g. by geese, and animal foraging). But the trees are an important habitat feature and offer potential song perches, nesting, and roosting places for birds as well as a potential site for bats to forage on insect life and roost in tree hollows and crevices under bark. Management needs to achieve a balance between needs of wildlife, historic interpretation, and access.

There is one small standing dead wood tree, normally SWT would suggest leaving a standing monolith, although in this case the trunk is unstable so may need to be cut close to ground level, retaining the tree stump for invertebrates and fungi, although that may attract the likes of Honey Fungus. A section of the trunk could be left on the ground both to provide invertebrate habitat and a place to pause and enjoy the space.

There is a large tree stump with rotted out hollow and there are clear signs that it is a good habitat for invertebrates of decaying wood. Over 1700 British Insects are reliant on decaying wood, which has become a scarce resource, so it should be retained for as long as possible. Allowing nettles to grow up around it could be a way of forming a natural barrier if there are health and safety concerns. Alternatively, the height could be reduced a little and the removed wood kept next to the stump.



There are no obvious tree health issues with the other trees although an assessment from a suitably qualified arboriculturist would be needed to be sure. Aside from future replacements, further tree planting was not considered appropriate by SWT and may not be permitted under the regulations concerning commons [check].

Hedges

A mixed native hedge that has been planted along one boundary can provide shelter, food, and nesting places for wildlife. The hedge has established well, and the rabbit guards should be removed to allow the hedge to bush out at the base. Coppicing, or hedge laying (Suffolk tradition should be adopted) are good ways of thickening the base of a hedge and could be considered if the hedge deteriorates. As some hedged trees produce flowers and berries on old wood, ideally a hedge is trimmed on a biennial rotation, cutting half each year. In this instance, the lane side would need to be cut more frequently to keep clear passage for vehicles to the neighbouring properties. To increase value to wildlife, cutting of the inner face of the hedge should be less frequent and a wide base encouraged.

The hedges should be cut in winter, outside of the bird breeding season (avoiding March - end of August) and ideally in February when the birds have eaten the fruit. Cutting a few centimetres higher over a three-year cycle is a way of avoiding the development of scar tissue and reduction in healthy shoots. Clippings should be removed off site or added a few at a time to the existing habitat piles. On the inner side management should allow the hedge margins to develop, leaving a long grassy base. To manage suckering scrub, mowing should be on a 2-3-year rotation, but some overwinter tussocky grass should be retained on at least one of the edges. These grassy edges will be good for hedgehogs as well as overwintering insects such as bumblebees.

Wire down to the ground will prohibit animal movements. For mobile species such as grass snakes and hedgehogs, habitat connectivity is vital. There should be a small gap of 13cm [check size] square under the pedestrian gate or wire, ensuring the wire is turned back on itself so there are no sharp edges or trap hazards. If there are concerns about small dogs getting through, then a hedgehog gap of 8cm high by 20cm wide may be made.

Meadow areas

These areas are quite dense and rough, and not species rich. In recent times the grass has been frequently mown so is no longer very rough and there are a few forbs. There appears to be a small patch of Green Alkanet, *Pentaglottis sempervirens*; a garden escape - it is a good pollinator but can dominate. Control involves removing the tap roots, 8cm mulching and can require repeated effort. Here it is probably most realistic to reduce spread rather than aim to eliminate.



Under the shade of the trees this site is not ideally suited to creating a typical wildflower meadow, however removing cuttings will prevent a thatch developing and existing wildflowers being smothered. Reducing cutting frequency to once (September/October) or twice (June/July then September/October) a year will bring wildlife benefits as long grass supports more abundance and diversity of invertebrates than closely mown grass. Invertebrates are in turn food for creatures such as hedgehogs, birds, and bats.

Modern practice that blends practical attractive access with wildlife friendliness is to mow pathways and perhaps create a glade of shorter grass. This will demonstrate that management is purposeful, facilitate access and benefit less competitive wildflowers.

Some grass cuttings can be added to the existing habitat piles which could be used by species such as grass snake or hedgehog. Habitat piles are particularly favoured by reptiles if the core is of more compacted vegetation with an outer layer of brash on top. The rotting vegetation in the core provides warm, moist conditions which are ideal for the incubation of grass snake eggs as well as numerous invertebrates.

Meadow enhancement would not be easy in the wet shady conditions. Green hay from a site with similar conditions would help. Plug plants are expensive and are not always successful but are a way of introducing wildflowers that are hard to germinate. Success is most likely with wet woodland or other woodland specialists.

Community Engagement with Wildlife and Wildlife Monitoring

In addition to biodiversity benefits, this green space should play a role in providing access to nature with associated well-being benefits. Most of the land should only require light management, and annual maintenance.

At other community sites, providing refreshments has established the annual management as a popular social event.

Wildlife interpretation could be through a signboard, QR code or messaging in the Parish newsletter. It could and should combine cultural and historical as well as natural history interest. It could be incorporated into a wider self-guided village trail leaflet.

The local scout group could help survey and produce interpretation.

Residents could be encouraged to record wildlife in the Pound, and it could become a village wide endeavour, including the village green, churchyard and gardens. Wildlife recording can gain interest but can be more widely beneficial if lodged with Suffolk Biological Records, either directly or through i-Record. The i-record platform allows for groups to set up their own space for collective records and has a process for verification. There is also an app-based platform i-naturalist. 'Plantnet' and 'Birdnet' are also available.



Access by people needs to mesh well with management for wildlife. There are several ways in which people could engage more widely with wildlife:

- Due to historic declines and ongoing challenges in rural areas, hedgehogs are a priority species for conservation. The village could use the new habitat creation as a springboard for hedgehog friendly gardening. Hedgehog Street is an informative site with a function for recording hedgehog friendly gardens.
- If there are swift screaming parties in the village and a suitable location could be found, swift boxes and a call system could be put up to supplement traditional nest sites. Swift boxes need to be placed 4-5m high with a clear flight path, ideally facing north to northeast. Suffolk Swift Group could advise on this. The 'Swift mapper' app is ideal for recording swift sightings, swift boxes and occupancy.
- The SWT website has downloadable pdf guides on various habitats and species such as swifts, hedgehogs and pollinating insects.
- Community groups can plot their action for wildlife on the SWT Team Wilder map with information about their project. SWT is also looking at offering Team Wilder branding and a logo that groups can use electronically to demonstrate that they are part of Team Wilder as a county-wide movement for nature's recovery.

Historic built Pound

There is a broadly central pitted and rough area where the built pound may once have stood. Pounds elsewhere in the country especially those with remaining built enclosures are of increasing historic interest. Several are Grade II listed, including those at Blundeston, Wrentham, Beccles and Walsham-le-Willows. Whilst access and wildlife are key matters for management of the Pound, so is historic legacy and following the reprehensible removal of the building materials before 1979, this aspect has been badly neglected to date.

Future management should include: investigation of the geophysics of the site; careful excavation of any built Pound remains so revealed; and investigation of the contents of the filled sandpit mentioned by Mr Whymark at the 1979 legal review. It may contain the actual construction materials enabling reconstruction or partial reconstruction. The host of this website: <http://poundsandpinfolds.co.uk.websitebuilder.prositehosting.co.uk/> can provide advice as to where to find historical references about their management and on a practical basis some knowledge on how to preserve and rebuild them. As a minimum, the original location of the built Pound should be marked by such as a brick outline and there should be an interpretation board showing the mediaeval and later uses and operation of the Pound.

Current Condition

The trees and hedges are largely healthy and the grass quite rough, neither fine nor poor.



Recent Changes

For many years to their great credit the owners of Mill House kept the Pound land an attractive tidy space, but disputes periodically compromised efficient effective management. Nowadays it is clearer that registered commons and pinfolds are part of the UK's important historic legacy. The only way to encourage and absolutely ensure continuity of access and balance of uses and interests is for the Parish Council as owner to lead and ensure that the Pound is well and regularly maintained.

To do that a Management Plan is needed – this document. There needs to be meaningful consultation, [*this should be based on the Natural England document 'A Common Purpose – A Guide to Community Engagement for those contemplating management on Common Land' - <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/common-purpose/common-purpose-guidance/>. This Guide is comprehensive. Its principles and main process needs to be followed but it makes very clear its use should be tailored to circumstances – in this case a small piece of Common Land with few resources available*] followed by agreement between council, the owners of Mill House, Natural England, the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and FWAG Suffolk. The final Plan will contain a specification and standards for maintenance and a knowledgeable Management Group led by a Pound Manager must at that point be appointed.

Once the final Plan is agreed, some form of contract is needed between a) the council as client and b) a service provider, based on the specification/ standards and including what must happen if things go awry. This should be a legal contract with a landscaping firm, possibly supplemented by volunteers under direction of the Pound Manager. It is simply not possible to ensure consistent, properly resourced management over the long term by using volunteers alone. Commitment inevitably erodes and differences of opinion intrude.



3. VISION, OBJECTIVES, WORK PROGRAMME

Sections 1 and 2 have identified what is present on the KPC holding, what is most important, what KPC would ideally achieve, and the factors present. Using the preceding sections, this section draws up a picture of what we want to achieve (guiding principles and objectives) and prescribes the tasks necessary to help get there over the next 5 years (work programme). KPC uses five-year Plans to deliver on its obligations, allow financial and resource planning, and setting of goals over a realistic, appropriate, period.

3.1 KPC's Vision for the Pound land

The Pound will be a visually attractive green area, well and regularly managed for flora, fauna, and people. There will be fewer standing trees than now and a reconstruction, or failing that a clear presentation, of what the historic Pound would have been like. Visiting by local people and visitors will as a result be greater. The area will be respected by everyone in harmony with nature and there will be regular involvement of the community.

3.2 Guiding Principles for KPC

1. Managing the Pound for the Parish as highest priority.
2. Appointing a single Management Lead to be the focal point for management and access, accountable to the council and parishioners.
3. Ensuring environmental well-being and resultant human benefits.
4. Meeting all legal obligations.
5. Ensuring ease and correctness of maintenance, including: eradicating any invasive, non-native species; maintaining, or restoring, suitable hydrological conditions; and undertaking good tree and hedge management.
6. Providing suitable, safe access that enables people to use and enjoy the land in a way that does not negatively affect the important features and special qualities of the land and its surrounds.
7. Offering education, and interpretation that clearly presents the site's historic significance, to enlighten and enthuse stakeholders. This in turn will help protect the area and its surrounds.
8. Working with nearby landowners to achieve wider gain for visitors, the land, and its surrounds.
9. Undertaking and encouraging community monitoring and research that informs management and understanding of the land's wider environment.



Objectives

Trees and hedges

To implement a regular management routine as recommended by SWT.

Built Pound

To:

- undertake a geophysical survey of the Pound land to identify the original location of the built Pound;
- identify the construction materials used for the built Pound, its shape and area, and whether any building materials remain in situ;
- if the existence of a built Pound is confirmed, mark its shape and area on the ground;
- seek permission to search the filled sandpit at Bridge Farm for construction materials, and if found, and it is practicable, affordable and agreed by stakeholders, reconstruct the built Pound using those materials; or
- alternatively, permanently mark the shape and area of the built Pound on the ground and keep the area clear.

Public Access

To:

- keep signage to a minimum;
- keep gates in good repair;
- discourage dog toileting;
- [need to consider access policy for disabled people/people who use wheelchairs];
- prevent access conflict, disturbance to wildlife, erosion and unlawful uses such as bike riding.

[What are the Key Performance Indicators for the Management Group?]

Interpretation

To instal interpretation that provides key messages about the Pound and its management, and helps people plan their visit and take care of the area.



Education

[to be determined]

[Are there specific objectives for any particular species, such as hedgehogs?]



Work Programme

This section identifies what must be done on the ground in the next five years to contribute towards the objectives. [A Risk Plan will also be needed, looking at the uncertainties in events, including health and safety hazards, as the objectives are worked towards.]

Management Options: Do Nothing, Grazing, Burning, Mowing, Strimming, Turf Stripping, Selective Tree Felling, Tree Shaping/Crown Lifting, Tree Planting, Hedge Removal, Hedge Planting, Hedge Shaping, Hedge Laying, Fencing, Fence Removal

	Years 2023 - 28					Who	Funds
	1	2	3	4	5		
Tree Safety							
Qualified person to check all trees triennially and produce report specifying required works	X			X			
Carry out required tree works							
Safely dismantle and clear any tree that falls problematically or dangerously							
Leave any other dead or dying tree to natural processes							
Monitor for tree disease and dangers and report to Pound Manager							
Grass							
Cut twice June/July then September/October. To manage suckering scrub, mow on a 2-3-year rotation, but retain some overwinter tussocky grass on at least one of the edges							
Mow attractively placed pathways and maintain glades of shorter grass							
Add some grass cuttings to habitat piles							
Hedges							
Trim on a biennial rotation, cutting half each year. Cut the lane facing hedge side more frequently to keep clear passage for vehicles to neighbouring properties. Cut inner face of hedges less frequently and encourage a wide base. On the inner side allow the hedge margins to develop, leaving a long grassy base.							
Cut hedges in winter, outside of the bird breeding season, ideally in February when the birds have eaten the fruit. Avoid March - end of August. Cut a few centimetres higher over a three-year cycle to avoid the development of scar tissue and reduction in healthy shoots.							
Remove clippings off site or add only a few at a time to habitat piles.							



Archaeology - reconstructed or marked built Pound							
Access - Bins [if any]							
Access - Gates and [any] Benches							
Access - Signs and Interpretation							
Access - Site Checks, Perimeters, Encroachments							
Access - Litter							
Nature conservation - wildlife							
Per species...							
Nature conservation – Flora, Injurious Weeds, Non-native Species							



Legal Enforcement and Consenting for Works							
Monitoring and Research							
Recreation							
Community							
Agriculture and Game							
No applicable actions needed?							